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CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, LONG BEACH

DAILY 49ER

Vol. LIX, Issue 471 | www.Daily49er.com | Thursday, April 26, 2012



HALEY LIDDELL | DAILY 49ER

Hang Tran, junior, and Anthony Alaimalo, senior, touch an anemone in the Aquarium on Wheels from Long Beach's Aquarium of the Pacific.

Students flock to Aquarium on Wheels

Around 80 people visited the exhibit within 30 minutes of its opening.

BY DAVID LOPEZ
Contributing Writer

Students gathered in front of Peterson Hall 1 to see the Aquarium on Wheels, a mobile exhibit housing sea urchins, sea cucumbers, anemones and a shark, as part of Earth Week activities on Wednesday.

The exhibit — a tide pool inside of a box truck — allowed visitors to touch various sea animals. Three assistants from the Aquarium of the Pacific were available to answer questions.

The Aquarium on Wheels was part of a weeklong effort by the Associated Students Inc. Conservation Commission to raise awareness of eco-friendly efforts, both on and off campus.

Lynh Nguyen, a senior Asian

AQUARIUM | Page 2

Psych Day offers feedback on student projects



HALEY LIDDELL | DAILY 49ER

Sarah Aqil, sophomore, counts jelly beans to try and win a "Final Survival Kit" at the Psychology Day event in the Psych building quad.

BY JASON CLARK
Staff Writer

Hundreds of students and faculty gathered in the psychology quad yesterday for the department's annual Psych Day, where students could get information on a myriad of topics, such as possible careers and a future in graduate school.

"Psych Day is an opportunity for students to share what they've learned and to get rewards for what they've done," Cal State Long Beach psychology professor Dave Whitney said. "It's a chance for students to have fun and explore and also to learn about grad schools."

Booths were set up all around the quad, each sporting a few black and yellow balloons. About a dozen grad schools had tables, including the USC School of Social Work and the Chicago School of Professional Psychology. Outside organizations, like the Blind Children's Learning Center and National Alliance for Mental Illness (NAMI) were also at the event.

"Psych Day in general promotes a lot of awareness because it's a really broad subject, and a lot of times when people think of psychology, they think of just giving therapy," NAMI representative and CSULB senior Lizett Rivas said. "For NAMI specifically, our mission is to educate and advocate on mental illness, so it's kind of the same thing."

In addition to the tables and booths, about 30 students had presentations and posters hanging on the walls of the west side of the quad. Each summarized a study or study proposal aimed at conducting further research in the field of psychology.

Amber Latronica, a grad student, gave a presentation on the effects of stress.

"I'm looking at the effects of ways people regulate their emotion as it relates to stress," Latronica said. "There's a theory that you regulate your emotions either by cognitively reassessing things or by just suppressing emotions. I want to see how those things interplay and how they affect stress level."

Psychology students have studies like this to look forward to as they advance in the program. Psych Day

PSYCHOLOGY | Page 2

Latino group to hold healthy living conference

Attendees will learn about opportunities to improve their health.

BY HOLLY WADE
Contributing Writer

The Cal State Long Beach Center for Latino Community Health, Evaluation and Leadership Training will hold its first annual conference on health equity Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. in the University Student Union ballrooms.

The conference, Strengthening Health Sciences with Culture/ Fortaleciendo las Ciencias de la Salud con Cultura, is designed to provide a unique opportunity for Latinos and other minorities to collaborate with each other and promote healthy living in honor of National Minority Health Month.

The conference will include a discussion of sexual and reproductive health, obesity and diabetes, and the effectiveness of culturally tailored intervention strategies, according to Center for Latino Community Health Research Associate Mayra Rascon.

"We are thrilled to bring these renowned public health researchers to CSULB," Britt Rios-Eillis, the director of the center, said. "This cadre of researchers and public health professionals will provide the conference audience with cutting-edge research and opportunities in Latino community health."

Rios-Ellis said she was confident attendees would take away a great deal of knowledge and skill from the conference that could be applied to their work in underserved Latino communities.

The Center for Latino Community Health, established in 2005, is a community-based organization that provides technical assistance to organizations interested in serving the health needs of Latinos.

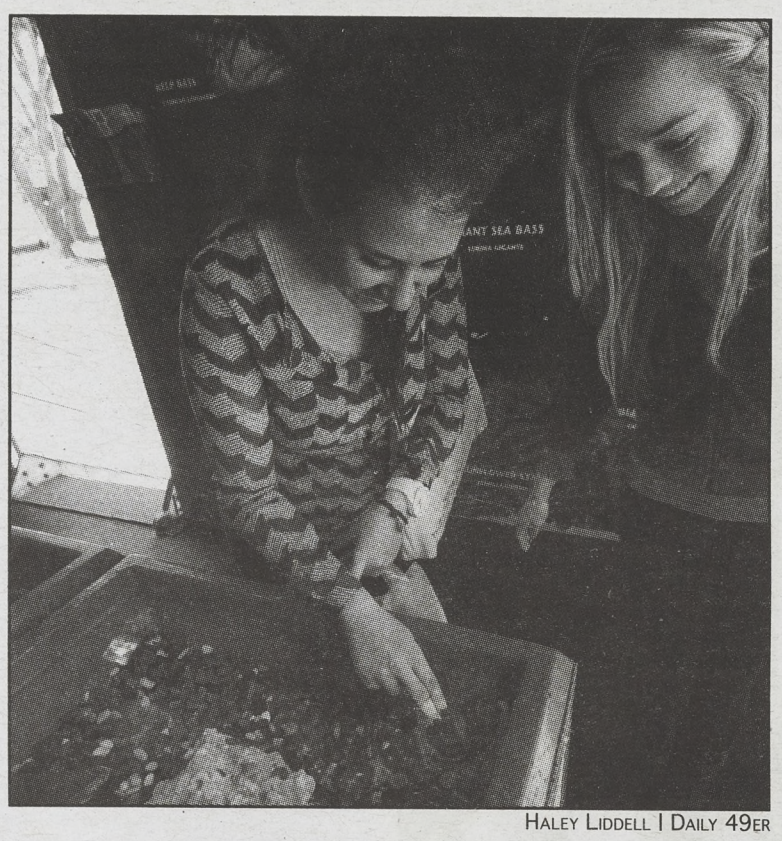
The center was formed as the result of a collaboration between CSULB and the Institute for Hispanic Health at National Council of La Raza. This Friday's health equity conference was organized by the Hispanic Health Opportunities Learning Alliance grant, which was funded by the National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities.

"I think any student interested in research would benefit from the information," said Melawhy Garcia, associate director of the center.

Although the main focus of the conference and the center's other activities is on the Latino community, the Center for Latino Community Health has information available that may benefit other minorities.

The center provides opportunities for networking, research and

LATINO | Page 2



HALEY LIDDELL | DAILY 49ER

Freshmen, Lindsay Budzinski and Zana Haddad pet a baby Swell Shark on campus, in the Aquarium on Wheels from Long Beach's Aquarium of the Pacific.

AQUARIUM

Continued from Page 1

American studies major, said she was impressed as she left the exhibit.

"I thought it was cool," Nguyen said. "The sea anemone was pretty cool because I'd never felt one. It sticks to your finger a little bit."

David Coyne, a senior illustrations major, said he was partial to the swell shark, which seemed to be a favorite of many students coming out of the exhibit.

English majors Hang Tran and Anthony Alaimalo waited outside for their chance to enter as the exhibit was arranged. Tran enjoyed the experience while Alaimalo had mixed feelings.

"Those things are scary," Alaimalo said. "I didn't want to touch any of them."

The Aquarium on Wheels has been part of Long Beach's Aquarium of the Pacific for about eight years. It's used five days a week, mainly for visiting elementary schools and preschools.

Still, the exhibit was quite the attraction as around 80 people visited the aquarium within 30 minutes of opening its doors.

"Even though the aquarium does target a younger audience, I figured anyone our age would be very much interested," Thuy Nghiem, ASI Conservation Commissioner said. "This is something that's in our backyard, and we should take care of it as much as we can because our fate depends on their fate."

Today, forums, panels and about 20 information tables highlighting campus and community efforts to raise awareness of sustainability efforts will be in the University Student Union from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

LATINO

Continued from Page 1

professional development to all students, Garcia said.

Friday's conference will have a table set up for students to learn more about internships, campus activities and other opportunities available at the center.

Approximately 250 people are expected to attend Friday's conference.

Registration for the conference is free and will take place from 7:30 to 8:30 a.m. Complimentary breakfast and lunch will be provided.

The next CSULB Latino health equity conference is scheduled for Sept. 27, 2012.

PSYCHOLOGY

Continued from Page 1

provided those already doing studies with the chance to display their work and hear opinions that will ultimately improve their proposals.

"It's really nice to get feedback from students and faculty and just get input," Latronica said. "We can get feedback from people on what's clear, what's unclear – things we can do to just sharpen up prior to actually implementing the project."

Psych Day started off with the grad school fair in the quad and continued with several workshops held in classrooms throughout the day. It ended with a speech by Joseph White, entitled, "The Influence of the Browning of America on Psychology in the 21st Century."

This was the Psychology Department's 40th Annual Psych Day, and it was hosted by the Psychology Student Association and Psi Chi students.

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UNIVERSITY STUDENT UNION

Professors to discuss employment, budget

They will speak at the annual Economic Forecast, predict local job market.

By Bradley Orr
Contributing Writer

Three Cal State Long Beach economics professors will provide answers on where the jobs are in Southern California and how the local economy will perform over the next year at the 18th annual Economic Forecast.

The forecast will focus on the job numbers and prospects for the counties of Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside/San Bernardino and Ventura.

The two and a half hour event will be held on May 10, beginning at 7:30 a.m. at the Hyatt Regency Long Beach.

"In terms of what students will learn from the event, I think they will get a sense of where the city and region are compared to the nation in terms of the economy, which should be of interest to students who are planning their career paths, given that many alumni stay in the region," CSULB economics Professor Kristen Monaco said via email.

Monaco will provide an overview of the Long Beach area and how the economy has performed over the past year.

She will also provide an outlook for next year based on the local labor market and port activity.

Last year, employment was basically flat in the City of Long Beach, according to Monaco.

"We expected that employment in the city would grow by 2,000 last year, but there were no gains," Monaco said. "This was largely driven by employment cuts among city employees, particularly teachers."

Although unemployment did not decrease, payroll numbers did increase in 2011. This means that those who were employed were making more money.

This was mostly due to the fact that many part-time positions became full-time positions.

Joe Magaddino, CSULB emeritus professor of economics, and Lisa Grobar, economics professor and director of the Economic Forecast Project, will also present at the forecast.

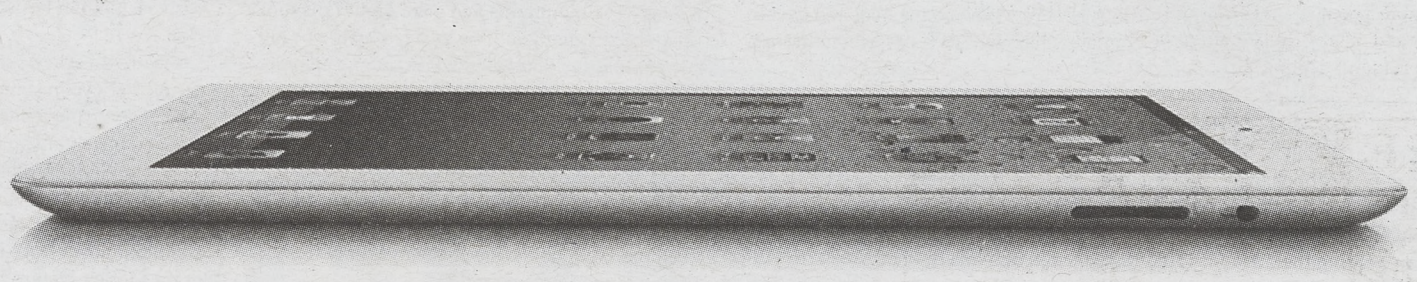
The presenters will make their predictions based on comprehensive sets of data on trade, housing, employment and income. It also factors in multiple national variables, such as interest rates, the federal budget and international trade.

The cost to attend is $125. For more information, contact the CSULB Office of Economic Research at 562-985-5061.

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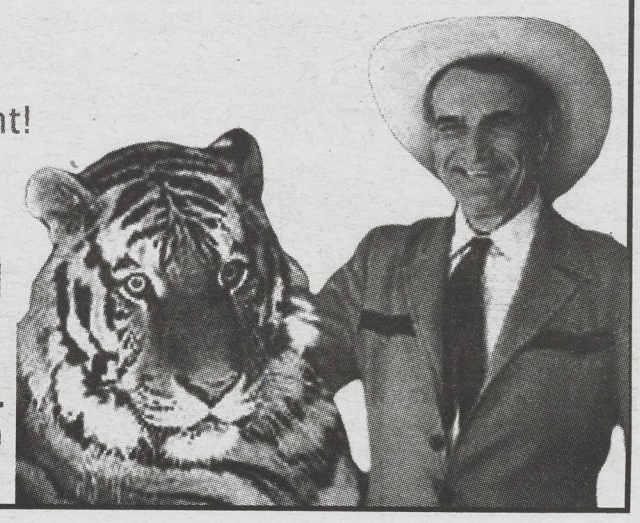


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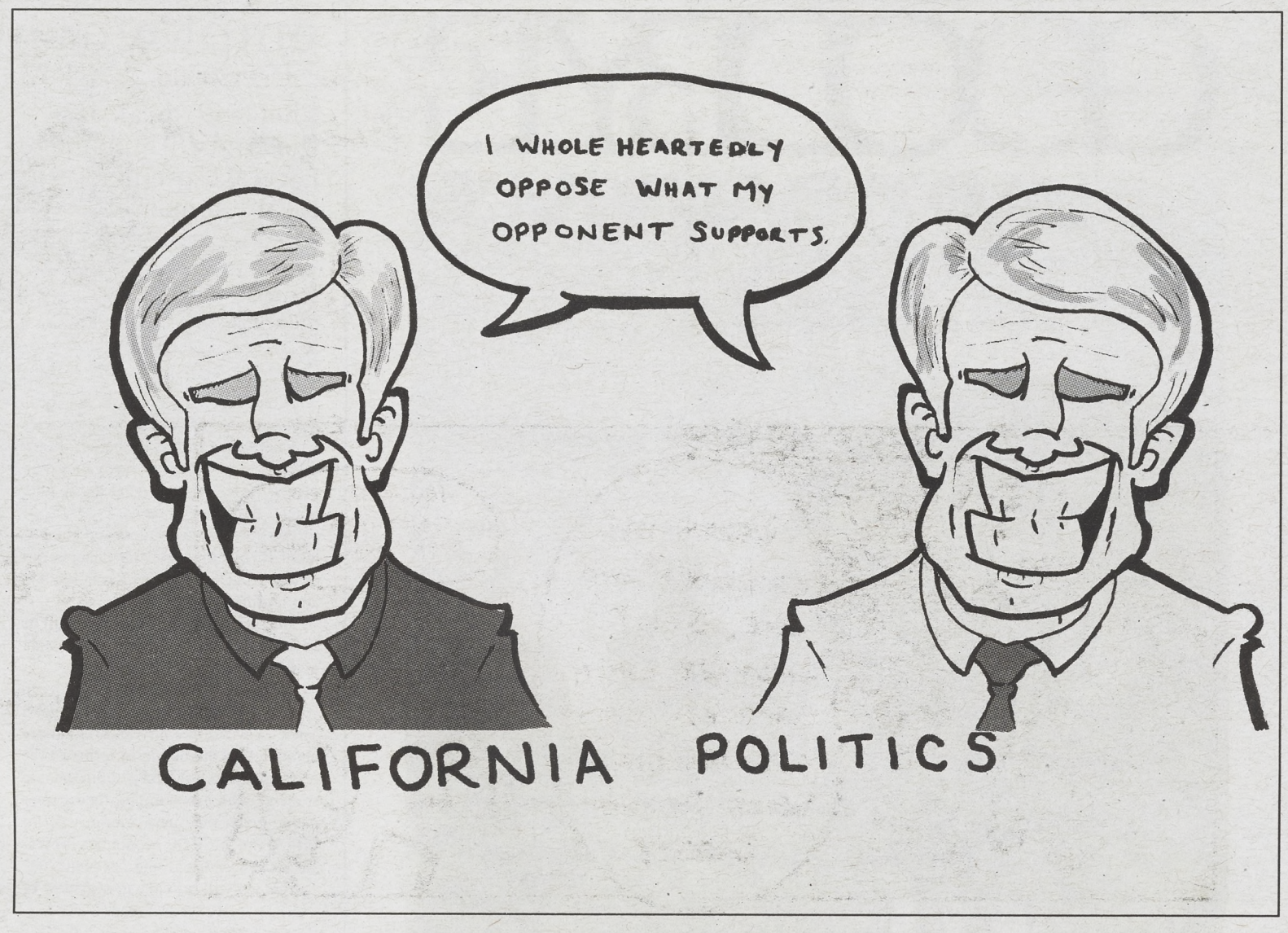
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No party preferences could benefit voters



A recent trend seen emerging on California election ballots is Congressional candidates no longer declaring a party preference. Instead of having Democrat or Republican checked next to their name, a handful of candidates are now identifying themselves without a political party.

This is due to a recent voter-approved overhaul of our state's election system. The old system did not allow independents to collect voter signatures until after the primary for the November ballot. The new system allows for independents to run against Democrats and Republicans during the primary, allowing for independents to vie for one of the two spots in the November runoff elections.

Since there is now a better chance of getting into office for independents, more and more candidates are choosing to be a no-party-preference candidate.

This could be a very good thing for California's political culture.

If most candidates ran without a party preference, ideally they would no longer have to worry about taking a side on an issue just because their political party encourages it. Candidate's platforms would not be restricted by a political party's ideals. Instead, this change could produce more sincere candidates that run following their own ideals, rather than candidates who are molded by political party machines.

A growth of no-party-preference candidates could also change the way people vote.

In order for voters to vote for their desired candidate, they would have to follow their stances on issues more carefully. Voters will have to make sure the candidates align with their political views. Voters could no longer rely on what their political party says to vote for. It would force voters to choose who they really think should help run the nation.

However, entering an election as a no-party-preference candidate has definite risks. First off, no-party-preference candidates will lose both the financial and voter support strong political parties bring. Both the Democratic and Republican parties are massive, practically dividing the nation in two. Voters have been identifying with either side for years. As an independent candidate in this political climate, it is still nearly impossible to overcome these political parties. There are too many voters who follow the Democratic and Republicans blindly like sheep. For independent candidates it is essentially David versus Goliath.

But, if this trend does continue, and more no-party-preference candidates start to get into office, there is a good chance we can see our political culture change. If independent candidates do see success—and admittedly that is a big if—there would no need for political parties in the future. Voters could see their vote mattering more because there would not be just two sides to choose from. Instead there would be a handful of different candidates to choose from that run in-between.

Let's face it. Even with the major left and right wing politicians fighting for issues to be addressed their way, the decision is usually somewhere in the middle. Maybe more work can get done if more no-party-preference politicians are elected. There would not be a political party breathing down the politicians' neck to vote a certain way, instead no-party-preference politicians would vote the way they were elected to by the people.

Atheism does not close people off from discovering spirituality

REBECCA RUIZ

People often believe that atheists have no spirituality and that all we care about is making religious people feel stupid. People believe that feeling connected or at one with the universe is strictly a perk of those that believe in some sort of higher power.

As an atheist, I have experienced the stigma that comes with letting people know you don't believe in any sort of deity.

Atheists are often seen as immoral or bad people without any values. These perceptions of atheism are wrong. Some of the nicest people I have met are atheist and hold themselves to a high moral standard, without religion guiding their actions. Atheists can be just as spiritual as religious people.

Science is never thought of as spiritual, and it is the oil to religion's water. They just don't mix. While studying biology, however, I found that science can give you that sense of being connected to something grander than yourself. All species on Earth were at one time connected, and we all share common characteristics passed on through our DNA.

It has been proven that humans share DNA with dragonflies and grapefruit. Every living thing evolved from one single microbe.

Anthropology taught me that as little as 150,000 years ago humans roamed the earth with several other human-like species.

To know evolution is to know the story of life on Earth, and to know the scientific story of life is to feel connected to the world as you never have before.

Not only does biology give me a spiritual feeling, astronomy comes into play as well. Take a trip into the mountains and once night falls look up at the sky and you'll be amazed by the beautiful glimmering stars painted on the sky. There are literally more stars in the universe than there are grains of sand on the earth. That is a mind-blowing number of stars.

The size and depth of the universe are immeasurable and it is really an unexplored frontier even though humans have spent years of their lives trying to understand it.

We are all made up of atoms, and the only place hot enough for atoms to merge and combine to form new elements is on a star. All the elements that make up your body came from a supernova, which means you and everyone you love and everything you see is connected not only with each other, but with the entire universe as well.

Death is a scary concept and most religious people believe in some sort of afterlife. But, as an atheist you believe that there is only one life to live and once you die it ends there.

When you die, your body decomposes back into several elements which are consumed and used and put back into the earth. So even though we might not believe in an afterlife, our bodies grant Mother Nature more life.

Rebecca Ruiz is a senior business major and a contributing writer for the Daily 49er.

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jUAN+ By Anibal Santos

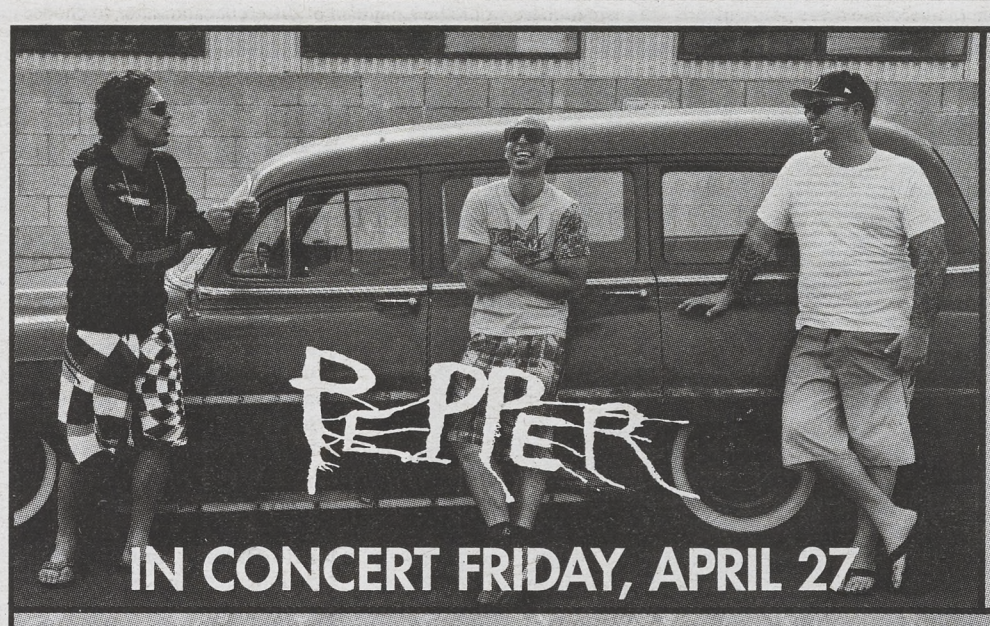


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'Goose and Tomtom' comedic, lacks focus

The play is difficult to follow because of muddled and rushed dialogue.

By Jackie Rosas
Staff Writer

The Garage Theatre kicked off its 11th season with the fast-paced comedy "Goose and Tomtom." This is the second time that The Garage Theatre has produced this manic comedy written by David Rabe and directed by Eric Hamme.

The highly suspenseful opening features a gun-clad, Tomtom (Paul Knox) quickly jumping awake after a very loud knock on the door. And from that moment on, there is non-stop dialogue and movement.

The tiny theater space that makes up the stage is covered with old newspaper, trash, items of clothing, and other random objects that create Tomtom's apartment. The walls are made of thin wood and partially covered in old newspapers that have faded drawings. This is a small insight to one of Tomtom's quirks that is later displayed throughout the show. There are only two doors, the front, which is thin, and another that leads to more rooms in the apartment.

Goose (Matthew Anderson) enters through the front door pointing a gun at Tomtom. Although it is quickly realized that they are best friends, these are two characters who are extremely paranoid, nervous and, at times, afraid of the outside world. But, of course, they live in a fictional place where witches can steal your soul, people can turn into animals and alien abductions can occur at any moment.

The characters that inhabit this fantastical world reflect on the obscurities they've encountered. All the characters have a child-like nature. They make messes and act almost blindly on their impulses. They're all also quick-tempered and volatile at times, especially Lorraine (Jessica Variz). She is Goose and Tomtom's lady friend who has total control over the two men, and whose anger and desires perpetuate the action of the plot. Most of the time, she makes Goose and Tomtom do foolish things because they want to keep her happy.

Together, Anderson and Knox portray an interesting pair of characters. Although they are best friends, there are times when their relationship is unclear. It has tough times and violent moments mixed with tender, compassionate ones. Their manner of speaking is quick, irrational and explicit at times. They often contradict each other and have a habit of recounting events in sequential order to newcomers.

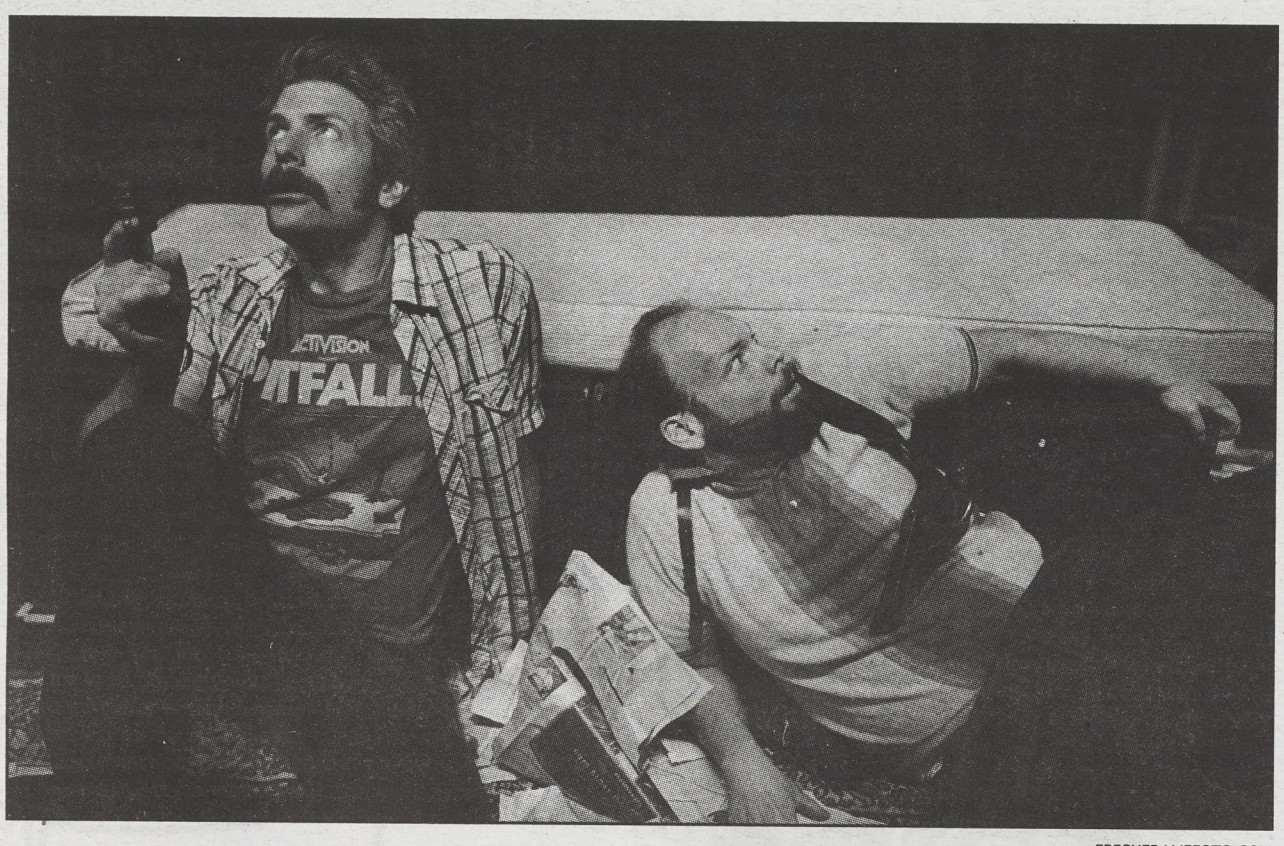
Although Anderson and Knox enthusiastically and energetically play these bizarre characters in this peculiar world, their efforts don't go unnoticed through the muddled plot. The premise is that they are jewel thieves who have a mission to take back the jewels that were stolen from Lorraine. But this objective is not clear until the middle of the show.

The quick dialogue is also another variable that adds to the confusion. There are many instances where one of the characters goes off on a tangent and confuses the audience and themselves. But there are also moments of sincere tenderness, especially from Knox who has multiple monologues about the importance of inner beauty.

Between the bursts of fantastical stories, explicit language and confusing plot lines are moments of true comedy. Although maniacal, malicious and evil at times, Variz as Lorraine is a hilarious character whose hold on the two title characters is fascinating to watch as the plot unravels. She blatantly uses her sexuality and softness to manipulate Goose and Tomtom into whimpering little boys.

Overall, this production is put on with a valiant effort by the entire cast but, unfortunately, the muddled plot and the confusing dialogue make it hard to follow. Although it is made up of interesting characters and some funny dialogue, it lacks the focus that is needed to hold attention.

"Goose and Tomtom" runs every Thursday, Friday and Saturday until May 19. Performances start at 8 p.m. and cost $18 for general admission and $15 for students, teachers or seniors. For more information or to buy tickets, visit **thegaragetheatre.org.**



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From left: Matthew Anderson and Paul Knox perform in "Goose and Tomtom," at the Garage Theatre.

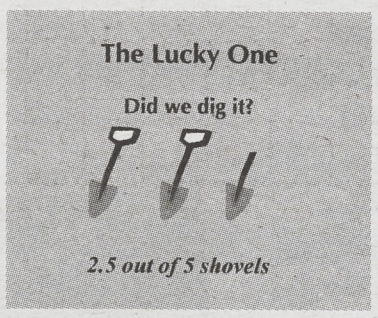
'The Lucky One' predictable but gripping

The Nicholas Sparks novel-based film is not unique, but it is still enjoyable.

By Erin Spandorf
Assistant News Editor

When looking at the movie title "The Lucky One" and knowing that it is based on a Nicholas Sparks novel, it is likely that men would shake their heads in disgust while women would say "aw" in memory of other love stories like "The Notebook." But that's just what "The Lucky One" is — another Nicholas Sparks movie.

Viewers walk into the theater getting exactly what they would expect from a story, written by the same author as "The Notebook" and "A Walk to Remember." Just like those movies, this one is just as predictable.



The film is set around Logan Thibault (Zac Efron), who comes back from a tour with the Marines in the Middle East solely because of a photo of a woman, Beth (Taylor Schilling). He said seeing the photo saved his life. Logan goes on a search for Beth and the two fall in love, except for one problem — Beth's controlling and abusive ex.

The director, Scott Hicks, left one major question to be answered: How does Logan find Beth so easily? Any rational person would understand how hard it would be to find a woman out of the millions living in the United States, but Logan seems to find her so easily after asking many people if they recognized the girl in the photo. Maybe the audience is meant to think that Logan found Beth out of pure luck or fate.

Finding love through fate is the theme that this film is based on, but this lends no originality to the storyline since so many other films have also relied on this very same theme. The point is that these two people end up together because they are meant to be together and have always been meant to be together. Emotional scenes are what convince the audience that this might possibly be true.

While it may be difficult to see Efron as anything but Troy from Disney's "High School Musical," it is easy to see that he has grown up. His portrayal of a stony-faced and disciplined Marine is far from the childhood work of his past.

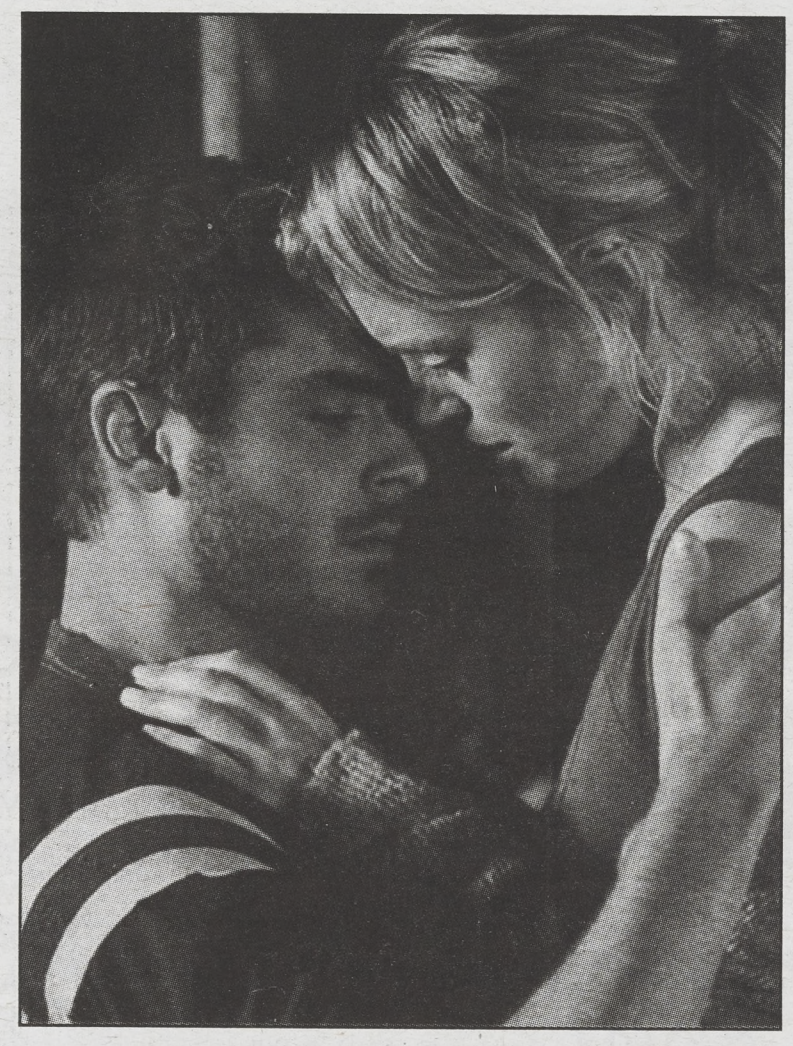
Schilling, while experienced through her roles in "Mercy" and "Atlas Shrugged: Part 1," does a bit too much overacting. The overdramatic look on her face before kissing Efron can easily make a viewer laugh. Regardless, Schilling does a good job at portraying Beth's emotions and making them come alive on the screen.

The biggest disappointment stems from how the only twist was presented. A random character, which had previously not been in the film at all, walks into the shot and tells the antagonist, Keith Clayton (Jay Ferguson), something that simply adds a chapter of sabotage and even more predictability to the film.

While the storyline doesn't follow the pattern of boy-meets-girl then boy-and-girl-fall-in-love-type of scenario exactly, it does still have the same qualities of predictability. After any given character makes a big decision or a large action is completed, it is easy for the audience to see what is coming next. In a way, this ruins a lot of the suspense in the film.

The one thing that the film succeeds in immensely is its balance of dramatic, comedic, emotional and gripping moments. There is enough comedic relief to keep the audience laughing, enough emotional moments to keep tears in the audience's eyes and enough gripping moments to keep the audience on the edge of their seats. The only problem is that this is all that the film relies on to make it memorable and relatable in the audiences mind.

In essence, this film is just like every other love story out there, just with its own twists to set it slightly apart from the rest.



Warner Bros. Pictures

From left: Zac Efron and Taylor Schilling star in "The Lucky One."

Campus Calendar

April 26

Student art galleries
The **art department** presents **MFA photography, MFA printmaking, art history and printmaking** from **noon to 5 p.m.** between the **FA2 and FA3 buildings**. Admission is **free**.

Portfolio exhibition
The **design department** presents **portfolio exhibition** from **10 a.m.** to **5 p.m.** in the **Design Gallery**. Admission is **free.**

Visiting Guest Artist Series
The **Bob Cole Conservatory of Music** presents **visiting guest artist series** with **Steven Spooner**, piano, at **8 p.m.** in **Gerald Daniel Recital Hall**. Tickets are **$7** for students and **$10** for general admission.

Faculty Dance Concert
The **Spring 2012 Faculty Dance Concert** will take place **at 8 p.m.** at the **Martha B. Knoebel Dance Theater**. Tickets are **$16** for students and **$20** for general admission.

'Rosencrantz and Guildenstern'
The **California Repertory Company** presents "**Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead**" at **8 p.m.** at the **Royal Theater** aboard the **Queen Mary**. Tickets are **$15** for students and **$20** for general admission. The Queen Mary is located at **1126 Queens Highway.**

Twitter: @D49erDiversions

10 Announcements

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04.26.12

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35 Employment Opportunities

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Dirtbags head to CSUN

LBSU will look to get above .500 for the first time since Feb. 26.

By Daily 49er Sports Staff

The Long Beach State baseball team will head into its road series against Cal State Northridge with a .500 record after defeating USC 1-0 on Tuesday night.

The Dirtbags record is back to even (19-19, 9-3 Big West Conference) for the first time since Feb. 28 when they dropped a 9-1 decision to UCLA, which dropped them to 4-4 on the season.

Six LBSU pitchers combined to hold the Trojans to just four hits while no USC player was able to cross the plate.

Sophomore closer Kyle Friedrichs picked up his seventh save of the season, shutting down the Trojans offense in the bottom of the ninth inning with two strikeouts.

Sophomore pinch hitter Brennan Fulkerson singled in sophomore first baseman Ino Patron for the lone run of the contest.

The Dirtbags will look to improve their 9-3 conference mark with a trip up to Northridge for another three-game Big West series. LBSU has won each of its four conference series, including a sweep of UC Santa Barbara, and a nail-biting series victory over UC Irvine that provided a no-hitter and a walk-off on back-to-back nights.

Senior center fielder Brennan Metzger leads the Dirtbags' offense with a .298 average, including one homerun, 22 RBI, and 10 doubles. Patron is hitting at a .284 clip on the season including three doubles, but has yet to find his power recording no homeruns while driving in 15 batters.

The three LBSU weekend starters, senior Shawn Stuart, junior Matt Anderson, and sophomore Ryan Strufing have combined to go 12-4 with a 2.58 ERA with Stuart leading the charge.

The 6-foot-3 senior is 5-0 with a 2.28 ERA on the season. He has also struck out 49 batters in 59 1/3 innings pitched. Friedrichs has blossomed as the team's closer after being thrust into the role due to the struggles of opening day closer junior Eddie Magallon.

Friedrichs has seven saves on the season with a 1.42 ERA, including 27 strikeouts in 25 1/3 innings pitched.

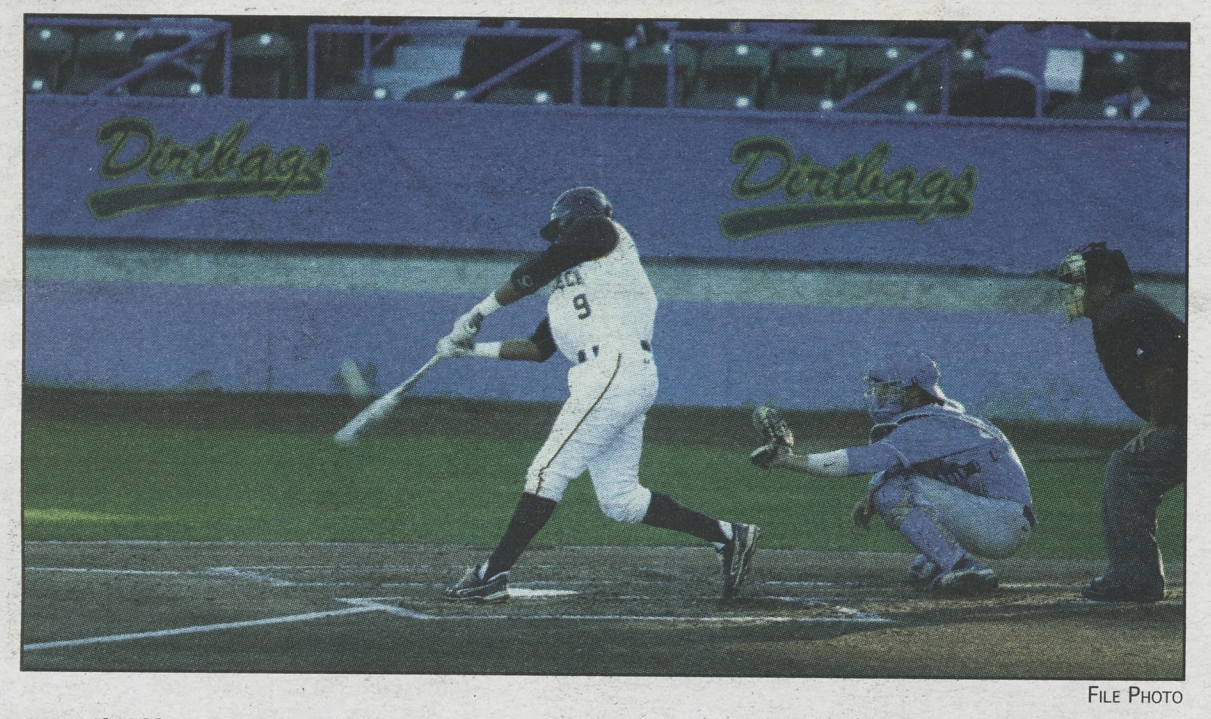
The Dirtbags' pitching staff will have to keep Matadors' (17-20, 4-5 Big West) sophomore outfielder Miles Williams at bay if they expect to take their fifth straight conference series win. Williams is batting just .255 on the season, but has shown a lot of power with five homeruns and 20 RBI.

Juniors Nate Ring and Cal Vogelsang set the table for Williams with .297 and .295 averages, respectively. Junior infielder Kyle Attl also provides Northridge with some power. Attl hits at just a .228 clip, but has four homeruns and 19 RBI for the season.

Junior right-hander Alex Muren anchors the CSUN pitching staff. Muren has a 5-4 record in nine starts with a 4.50 ERA. He has been hit hard in conference, however, as he has been tagged for a .386 batting average in Big West play.

Freshman Jerry Keel has a 4-1 record with a 2.01 ERA so far this season. The left-hander has pitched 53 2/3 innings, striking out 30 batters while walking just 19.

Overall, the Matadors pitching staff has a 5.23 ERA with 170 strikeouts and 137 walks. The CSUN pitchers have also allowed 19 homeruns to opposing hitters.



File Photo

LBSU third baseman Juan Avila (9) will look to spark the Dirtbags offense this weekend at CSUN.

LBSU vs. CSUN By the Numbers

LBSU	CSUN
Batting average: .249	Batting average: .262
Homeruns: 1	Homeruns: 16
RBI: 132	RBI: 145
Team ERA: 3.16	Team ERA: 5.23
Strikeouts: 240	Strikeouts: 170
Walks: 126	Walks: 137

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